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NEW SCINCID LIZARDS OF THE GENERA *TROPIDOPHORUS* AND *LYGOSOMA* FROM NEW GUINEA.

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Recently my colleague Captain P. J. Darlington Jr., through the courtesy of the Australian New Guinea Administrative Unit, was enabled to spend his local leave in a brief visit to the little-known Mount Wilhelm, 15,400 feet. With customary zeal Dr. Darlington preserved representatives of the reptiles he encountered. It is hoped to report more fully on his collection at a later date, but as three species of lizards are apparently undescribed and one of them is of a genus (*Tropidophorus*) not known to occur in New Guinea, it seems advisable to publish their descriptions without further delay.

Tropidophorus darlingtoni sp. nov.

Type.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, No. 47051, a gravid ♀ taken between 5000–6000 feet on Mount Wilhelm, Bismarck Range, Madang Division, New Guinea, by Captain P. J. Darlington, Jr., October, 1944.

Paratypes.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Nos. 47052–3, being two juveniles with same data as the type.

Diagnosis.—In complete agreement with the generic characters as defined by Malcolm Smith (1935, Fauna of British India, Rept. & Amph. 2, p. 322). Shields and scales smooth, in 34–36 rows around midbody; frontonasal entire; postmental entire; a pair of enlarged preanals. In the following description the paratype variations are given in parentheses.

Description.—Head shields smooth; frontonasal broader than long; prefrontals in contact; combined length of prefrontals and frontal as long as that of frontoparietals and interparietal; a frontoparietal subequal to the interparietal; parietals forming a suture behind the interparietal; supraoculars 6, first largest, last very small, none bordering the eye;

supraciliaries 7 (8); upper labials 5, the fourth below the centre of the orbit, from which it is separated by small suboculars; lower labials 4; tympanum smaller than the orbital opening.

Body-scales smooth, in 34 (36) rows around midbody, dorsals subequal to ventrals; a pair of enlarged preanals; body moderate, the toes of the adpressed hind limb well separated from the fingers of the backward pressed forelimb (overlapping in juvenile paratypes); digits moderate, with smooth lamellae below, 12–13 (12–15) beneath the fourth toe; tail (probably reproduced) stout, very slightly compressed, shorter (longer in one paratype) than the head and body.

Color.—Above, pale brown, heavily speckled and mottled with darker, particularly on head; lips plumbeous spotted with white; flanks paler than dorsum, an ocellus-like spot just above insertion of forelimb (rather more distinct in young than in adult); limbs pale, handsomely variegated with darker. Below, chin and throat to forearms plumbeous, each scale with a small pale spot at its base (white in young with scattered flecks, especially towards the sides); breast and belly immaculate white (pinkish in life in type?); tail anteriorly white heavily speckled with plumbeous, posteriorly wholly plumbeous (not so in young where the entire underside of the tail is like the anterior portion of the adult).

Size.—Total length of ♀ type (M.C.Z. 47051), 116 (63+53) mm., but tail apparently regenerated; of juvenile paratype (M.C.Z. 47052), 92 (42+50) mm., tail intact.

Remarks.—This new lizard, which apparently consitutes the first record of the occurrence of the genus *Tropidophorus* in New Guinea, is not closely related to any of the described forms. In the plumbeous coloring of its throat and lips, especially in the position of the white spots on the labials, *darlingtoni* duplicates the coloring of *rivularis* Taylor. That Philippine species, however, has strongly keeled dorsal scales, whereas *darlingtoni*, in its smooth scalation conforms to the Bornean *beccarii* and *mocquardi* as well as to the mainland *berdmorei* and *laotus*. In this connection it is interesting to note that the halfgrown young are perfectly smooth, for Malcolm Smith (*loc. cit.*, p. 324) says of this genus that: "The young at birth have always keeled scales."

Breeding.—Largest ova in type measure only 2 mm. in diameter.

Lygosoma (Leiolopisma) prehensicauda sp. nov.

Type.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, No. 47057, an adult ♂ taken between 7500–8000 feet on Mount Wilhelm, Bismarck Range, Madang Division, New Guinea, by Captain P. J. Darlington, Jr., October, 1944.

Paratype.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, No. 47058, an adult ♂ with the same data as the type.

Diagnosis.—Referable to the section *Leiolopisma* as redefined by Malcolm Smith (1937, Rec. Indian Mus., 39, p. 223) in his section B.b., though snout might well be called subacuminate. Related, though not closely except in scale-counts, to *L. anolis* (Boulenger) of the Solomons. *L. prehensicauda* is a larger, stouter species with a blunter, less

acuminate, snout than that of *anolis;* the toes of the adpressed hind limb are widely separated from the fingers of the backward pressed forelimb, certainly not reaching to the elbow as in the slender-limbed *anolis.* The parietals are well separated by the interparietal; there are no definite nuchals; the dorsals are striated, not smooth; and the peculiar subcaudal scalation of *prehensicauda* is lacking in our extensive series of *anolis.* In the following description paratype variations are given in parentheses.

Description.—Head shields rugose; frontonasal broader than long; prefrontals broadly in contact; combined length of prefrontals and frontal greater than that of frontoparietals and interparietal; a frontoparietal subequal to the interparietal, which separates the parietals, which are bordered posteriorly by 2 or 3 irregularly enlarged shields and an elongate upper temporal; no supranasal; nasal entire; a postnasal and an anterior and posterior loreal; supraoculars 4 (5 if a very small anterior one is included); supraciliaries about 7 or 9 (6 or 8); lower eyelid with a transparent disk; upper labials 8 (7–10), the seventh (sixth or eighth) below the center of the orbit from which it is separated only by the granules of the lower lid; lower labials 8–10 (7–8); ear-opening very small, without projecting lobules.

Body scales in 38 rows around midbody, the dorsolaterals finely striated, the 4 dorsal rows enlarged, slightly larger than the smooth ventrals; anals irregularly enlarged; body moderate; limbs short, the toes of the adpressed hind limb widely separated from the fingers of the backward pressed forelimb; fingers moderate or short, toes longer, with smooth lamellae below, 15 (16–17) beneath the fourth toe, the 6 (7–8) distal ones differentiated from those on the depressed basal portion; tail stout, cylindrical, slightly longer than head and body, on the underside towards the tip are a series of about 28, brown, slightly swollen, transverse shields which, taken in conjunction with the curled tip, suggest that they supplement a grasping organ.

Color.—Above, greenish olive, merging into vivid green on sides of body and underside of tail, which is sepia brown towards the tip. Below, greenish white, except end of tail.

Size.—Total length of ♂ type (M.C.Z. 47057), 141 (69 + 72) mm., of paratype ♂ (M.C.Z. 47058), 125 + (65 + 50 +) mm., but tail regenerating.

Lygosoma (Leiolopisma) elegantoides lobulus subsp. nov.

Type.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, No. 47067, an adult ♂ taken from between 7500–8000 feet on Mount Wilhelm, Bismarck Range, Madang Division, New Guinea, by Captain P. J. Darlington, Jr., October, 1944.

Paratypes.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Nos. 47068–82 with same data as the type.

Diagnosis.—Very closely related to *elegantoides* Ahl (nom. nov. for *elegans* Boulenger, preoccupied by *Hinulia elegans* Gray), from which our fifteen specimens differ in having 34–36 rows of scales around mid-

body, and in having the digits uniformly compressed throughout their length, the subdigital lamellae of the distal portion not or but scarcely differentiated from those of the basal.

Dr. Malcolm A. Smith, who has kindly reexamined Boulenger's type, informs me that both it and a second example from Mondo actually have 32 (*not* 30) midbody scale-rows and 1 or 2 distinct ear lobules. He also says that the degree of differentiation between the subdigital lamellae of the distal portion and those on the basal part is *more marked* than in his (Malcolm Smith, 1937, Rec. Indian Mus., **39**, p. 216, fig. f) figure of *Dasia vittata*. In *lobulus* any differentiation there may be is certainly *less marked*. Malcolm Smith places "*elegans*" in his section B. a. described as having "Lamellae beneath the basal phalanges transversely enlarged and differentiated from those on the terminal phlanges (except in *pulchellum*). Snout subacuminate; prefrontals separated from one another; tail? prehensile." Evidently *L. lobulus* furnishes a second exception, and there seems to be no grounds for thinking its tail is prehensile.

The feet of the new species have yellow-green soles, suggesting evidence of affinity with *elegantoides* Ahl and *flavipes* Parker. It agrees with the former, but differs from both the latter and *parkeri* Malcolm Smith in its much longer limbs, the toes of an adpressed hind limb reaching the elbow or axilla. In the following description paratype variations are given in parentheses.

Description.—Head shields smooth; frontonasal broader than long; prefrontals narrowly in contact (separated in 13 of the 15 paratypes); length of frontal equal to (rarely a trifle shorter or longer than) the combined lengths of frontoparietals and interparietal; a frontoparietal is subequal to the interparietal, latter separates the parietals, each of which is bordered externally by 3 enlarged shields, the hindmost being the first of a series (1–3) of paired nuchals; no supranasal; nasal entire; an anterior (horizontally divided on right side only of M.C.Z. 47073) and a posterior loreal, the former being in contact with a prefrontal; supraoculars 4, *only the 2 anterior ones in contact* with the frontal (except in one young paratype (M.C.Z. 47082) where apparently 3 are in contact); supraciliaries 8 (7–8); lower eyelid with a transparent disk; upper labials 7 (constant), the fifth (constant) below the center of the eye; lower labials 7–8 (6–8); ear-opening larger than the palpebral disk, with several (1–3) projecting lobules on its anterior border.

Body scales smooth, in 34–36 rows around midbody, the 2 dorsal rows enlarged, slightly larger than the ventrals; anals irregularly enlarged; body moderate; limbs long, the toes of the adpressed hind limb reaching the elbow (in all adults, whether gravid or otherwise; reaching the axilla in subadult and young specimens); fingers and toes compressed throughout, long, the fourth toe longest, with smooth lamellae below, 24 (19–23) beneath the fourth toe, the distal ones undifferentiated from those on the basal portion; tail moderate, subcylindrical, slightly depressed, tapering, much longer than head and body, not prehensile.

Color.—Above, dark brown; head shields mottled with black; body with numerous pale flecks; a more or less interrupted white stripe from ear-opening to groin forms the lower edge of an indistinct (distinct in young) lateral band; tail with black spots arranged in pairs (frequently forming transverse bars in young). Below, white, scales of chin, throat, and underside of tail more or less flecked with brown.

Size.—Total length of type ♂ (M.C.Z. 47067), 146 (60+86) mm., of ♀ (M.C.Z. 47068), 135 (55+80) mm.